

(Transmitted during Recess).

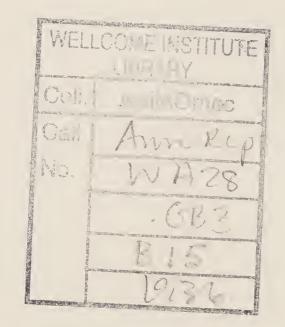
MEDICAL AND SANITARY REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1936.

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I. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) Staff.

Staff of the Medical and Sanitary Departments.

Chief Medical Officer and Resident Surgeon

Government Bacteriologist and Medical Officer Assistant Medical Officer

District Medical Officers:

Harbour Island Cat Island Andros Andros Eleuthera Inagua

Abaco Superintendent of Hospital Chief Sanitary Inspector Assistant Sanitary Inspectors:

Quarantine Officer Matron Nursing Sisters:

Public Health Nurse Dispenser Relieving Officer Chaplain Supervisor of Nassau Market Clerk to the C. M. O. and Health Board

J. M. Cruikshank, M.D., C.M., L.M.C.C., C.T.M., L.M.S., F.A.C.S., D.P.H.

George Kinneard, M.D., M.C. P.&.S., C.T.M., C.P.H.

L. W. Fitzmaurice, M.D., C.M., L.M.C.C.

K. V. A. Rodgers, M.B., CH.B. (seconded to the Hospital)

Vacant. Vacant. Vacant.

W. A. Foulkes, M.D.

D. A. Fields, M.D., C.M., L.M.S. I. C. Huggins, M.B., CH.B., D.T.M. & H.

Vacant.

H. L. Sumner. H. F. Knowles. Harry Pyfrom. C. T. Elden. G. W. Harrison. M. H. Hall.

Miss A. Baines. Miss J. Henderson.

Miss E. O'Keeffe. Miss F. E. Copland.

Miss Florrie May.

G. B. Strachan. S. A. Wallace.

Rev. A. Douglas.

L. B. Albury.

Miss Kathleen E. Albury.



Native Nursing Staff is made up as follows:

- 1 Staff Nurse on general duty.
- 1 Staff Nurse on permanent duty, Infirmary.
- 1 Staff Nurse—Nurses' Supervisor.
- 5 Assistant Nurses.
- 24 Probationer Nurses in training.
- 3 Midwives in training.
- 14 Male attendants.
- Dr. J. M. Cruikshank, Chief Medical Officer, returned from leave on the 1st June, 1936, having acquired a Dipoma in Public Health, after completing post graduate studies.
- Dr. A. J. Eyres, District Medical Officer, Abaco, terminated his services with the Government on the 28th December, 1936.

(b) FINANCIAL.

Owing to the Financial Year being altered to correspond with the calendar year, the figures given below represent the expenditure of the Medical and Sanitary Departments and Colony's revenue for the period April 1st to December 31st, 1936.

Actual expenditure on the Medical and Sanitary Services £20,974.

Percentage of the Colony's revenue represented by the above, 8.5%.

Revenue derived from Hospital.

Revenue from all sources amounted to £1690 11s. 6d., an increase of £88 15s. 10d.

Comparative Statement of Revenue.

-				
	1935.		1936.	
Private Patients' Department	£ 518 19	7	£ 795 3	0
Hospital and Asylums	783 9	1	713 19	6
Out Patients' Department	17 14	6		
Ambulance Fees	33 19	0	30 18	0
X-Ray Fees	97 2	0	93 0	0
Bacteriological Department	109 17	0	39 11	0
Miscellaneous	40 14	6	18 0	0
·				
	£1601 15	8	£1690 11	6

Revenue derived from sources other than Hospital, was as follows:

	19	935.		1936.	
Market and Slaughterhouse	£941	0	3	£930 3	0
Sales of Carbolic Acid	14	4	6	14 11	3
Fees for Fumigation of					
Ships, etc	6	0	0	11 0	0
Fees for Health Certificates	123	18	0	312 18	0
	£1085	2	9	£1268 12	3

Total revenue paid into the Treasury £2,959 3s. 9d.

Statement of Expenditure at the Hospital.

Total expenditure from open votes for all purposes amounted to £14,985 5s. 10d. Expenditure on the Hospital from provision annually recurrent and special, was £13,357 0s. 10d. To this must be added the salaries of officials under "Personal Emoluments," £3506, giving a total of £16,863 0s. 10d.

On this basis the daily running cost of the institution was £36 4s. 0d. and the average cost per resident patient was 3s. 10d. a day—the lowest figure ever recorded.

£1488 1s. 9d. was paid to other Government Departments for water, electricity, licences, etc. The General Vote proved inadequate and excess expenditure of £420 was incurred under this heading.

Statement of Expenditure for Sanitary Service.

	198	36.	
Garbage Collection	£1214	0	11
Street Sweeping	1106	16	8
Upkeep of Latrines	266	3	8
Upkeep of Market and Slaughterhouse	565	3	7
Repairs to Market Buildings	200	0	0
Salaries of Sub-Sanitary Inspectors	548	3	4
Salary of Slaughterer	156	0	0
	£4056	8	2

(c) Buildings.

- 1. Private Patients. A bungalow containing an operating theatre and 6 rooms, each with private bath.
- 2. Infirmary. A two-storied building for aged and decrepit. Accommodation for 30 females and 30 males.
- 3. Pauper Hospital. A two-storied building, containing two (2) Operating Theatres, X-Ray Department, and public and semi-private wards. Accommodation for 40 males and 40 females.
- 4. Tuberculosis Ward. A bungalow capable of accommodating 12 patients.
- 5. Male Mental Hospitals:
 - (a) A two-storied building—25 separate rooms for pauper patients.
 - (b) Bungalow containing four rooms for accommodation of private patients.
- 6. Female Mental Hospitals:
 - (a) A single-storied building composed of a ward and accommodation for 10 pauper patients.
 - (b) A one-storied building having separate rooms accommodating 16 pauper patients.
 - (c) A bungalow containing 4 rooms for private patients.
- 7. Other Buildings are:
 - (a) Out Patients' Department and Dispensary.
 - (b) Laboratory.
 - (c) Central Kitchen.
 - (d) Central Laundry.
 - (e) Mortuary and Post-Mortem Building.
 - (f) Administration Building, containing Public Health and Hospital Offices.
 - (g) Separate residences for each of the three Medical Officers, the Superintendent, European Staff and Native Staff.
 - (h) Garages for 2 Ambulances, 6 garbage trucks and personal cars.

(c) PORT HEALTH.

The Port Officer examines the Bills of Health and in the event that there is any doubt as to the ship's Bill of Health, a Medical Officer is summoned by the Officer of the Port to inspect the ship before it is granted pratique. There have

been no diseases of a quarantinable nature discovered this year.

A total of 257 aeroplanes and 609 vessels were granted pratique during the year.

I. PUBLIC HEALTH.

(a) Ordinances.

There were no ordinances during the year affecting Public Health Regulations.

(b) GENERAL REMARKS.

The pre-natal Clinic is doing a much needed work. It is operated by the Roman Catholic Sisters, and attended by a private practitioner, Dr. H. Mather Hare. Attendance during the year 932.

On the 30th September, 1936, Miss F. May, a graduate nurse with post-graduate diploma in Public Health Nursing was appointed in charge of the Child Welfare Service, which is now under the control of the Health Department. A part time medical practitioner conducts three clinics per week and the nursing work is performed by Miss May and two assistant native nurses. The Public Health Department is greatly indebted to volunteer workers who assist at the clinics. Statistics covering this work are given at the end of this report.

(c) DISEASES.

Helminthic Disease.

Ascaris, oxyuris, and trichuris trichiura infections are frequently seen. Cases are treated as they come under observation. The oil of chenepodium is the vermifuge usually prescribed.

Venereal Disease.

All the venereal diseases occur—syphilis, gonorrhoea and climatic bubo with great frequency, chancroid less frequently and granuloma venereum very seldom.

Communicable Diseases.

The health of the Colony remained much the same as in former years. Upper respiratory infections such as influenzal colds were prevalent from time to time, especially during periods of cold or changeable weather.

Numerous cases of mumps and measles occurred both in Nassau and in the Out Islands. The actual incidence of cases is unknown because very few cases are reported to the authorities.

There has been no marked increase in the incidence of typhoid during this year. There were 20 cases with 3 deaths reported. An anticipated increase in the number of public standpipes supplying chlorinated city water, improved sanitation and mass inoculation will further reduce the incidence of this disease. No para-typhoid was noted. 4247 inoculations were given.

Tuberculosis is an important disease. 104 cases were admitted to the Bahamas General Hospital, with 45 deaths. The opening of a small ward for such cases marks a beginning in anti-tuberculosis work. "Sputum positive" cases are kept in this ward, thus removing foci of infection out of the community. Efforts are being continued in an attempt to isolate early cases, otherwise those suffering from this disease do not seek admission to hospital until in extremis.

Malaria, dengue, smallpox and diphtheria contributed no cases during the year.

The situation in regard to leprosy remains unchanged. The usual remedies were given—the results were not impressive.

(d) VITAL STATISTICS.

The estimated population for the year 1936 was 66,219. The estimated increase (actual number) over 1935 was 1237.

Male births in 1936	 	 	. 1002
Female births in 1936	 	 	971
757 / 1			

This gives a crude birth rate of 32.9 per 1000 living.

Total.....

1973

Deaths in 1936, Male. Deaths in 1936, Female.	591 536
	1127

This gives a crude death rate of 18.8 per 1000.

The infant mortality rate, i.e., deaths of children under one year of age per 1000 live births, is not known but in New Providence the Infant Welfare Association recorded for the year 603 live births, 29 still births, 40 deaths under one year if still births are included. This gives an infant mortality rate for the group observed of 66.3 per 1000 births.

Immigration in 1936: Males 5818, Females 5490, total 11,306.

Emigration in 1936: Males 5533, Females 5384, total 10,917.

III. HYGIENE.

NUTRITION.

The following represents the diet of the labouring classes in the Bahamas, which in turn is approximately 85% of the total population.

75% of the labouring classes representing the masses:

- Breakfast. Boiled fish and hominy (finely cracked cornhusk absent). Tea or coffee with brown sugar without milk.
- Dinner. Corned beef, salt beef, fish, hominy, or peas and rice (polished) possibly one slice bread (always white) without butter.

Vegetables such as Irish potatoes, sweet potatoes, plantain, corn on cob roasted (not boiled) three (3) weeks per year (tomatoes very seldom served—lettuce, spinach, watercress, beets, carrots, never).

Supper. Tea with sugar, no milk, white bread without butter.

Sundays. One (1) pound mutton or pork usually bought over week-end and served with pigeon peas and rice (polished).

25% of labouring class:

Breakfast. Cereal (usually rolled oats) or tinned sausages or tinned salmon or boiled fish and hominy. Seldom bacon and eggs. Occasionally fresh sausage. Bread (white) usually with butter. Avocado Pear two (2) months per year. Tea or coffee, condensed milk, white sugar.

Dinner. Corned beef (tinned), salt beef, fried fish, mutton or pork. Vegetables—Rice (polished), potatoes or plantain, (pumpkin and cabbage occasionally), tomatoes during season. No bread; carrots, beets, lettuce, spinach, very seldom.

Supper. Boiled fish, tea, condensed milk and sugar.

Fruit when used is usually bananas.

Citrus Fruits, Paw-Paw, Avocado. Not sufficient grown locally to enable labouring classes to use to any extent as too expensive.

Practically all hay, etc., is imported for cattle, which causes milk to be sold at 1s. 4d. per quart. This renders milk too expensive for consumption on a large scale. Dried milk is also too expensive.

Generous calculations on the quantity of each article of diet consumed averages only 2000 calories per day. Also, as will be seen from this diet, the food consumed is lacking in vitamins and minerals. Thus the following diseases and symptoms are encountered:

Pellagra. This disease is very prevalent at certain times and accounts for a great deal of illness and debility. (Statistical Report on Pellagra in the Bahamas when brought up to date will be forwarded).

Night Blindness. Prevalent.

Caries of Teeth. Extremely prevalent.

General Debility, Lethargy. Prevalent.

Skin Eruptions. Fairly common.

Catarrhal Infections. Fairly common.

Calculi (Renal and Cholecystic). Uncommon, rare.

Beriberi, Scurvy, Rickets. Occasional.

Practical measures which have been taken in the past to apply scientific knowledge to the improvement of nutrition:

- 1. Lectures on diets and nutrition with demonstration of suitable patients at the Hospital given to Public School Teachers during their annual convention over the past five years.
- 2. Lectures on nutrition to Nurses and Midwives in training at the Bahamas General Hospital.
- 3. Special courses of instruction in First Aid and Nutrition to selected candidates such as Commissioners, Clergy, etc.
- 4. Dissemination of knowledge of nutrition through the Infant Welfare Organization, which covers the child from birth to school-age.
- 5. Upon the completion of the Undergraduate Course in general nursing, each nurse must devote three (3) months with the Infant Welfare Organization, so as to gain practical experience in the instruction of mothers in rearing their children.
- 6. School Gardens. There are in existence at a few of the schools vegetable gardens, but these need to be increased and emphasis placed upon the necessity of learning to eat such vegetables.
- 7. Domestic Science Schools. A certain amount of instruction is given in the Public Schools by qualified teachers. There is also a private Domestic Training School for purpose of instructing servants in the art of cooking.

Further studies and researches which appear desirable:

Scientific investigation on the possibility of growing various fodders for cattle, such as alfalfa, etc., in various islands of the Colony, because apparently it is not practical to grow other fodder such as timothy in these islands.

Further practical measures to be adopted beginning 1937.

- 1. Inauguration of School Hygiene organization:
 - (a) Medical examinations of children entering school and four times throughout their school life.

- (b) Periodic examinations of the school children by the Welfare Nurse, and follow-up in the progress of each child after being referred for medical treatment.
- (c) Lectures and demonstrations in Hygiene by a Public Health Nurse.
- 2. Inauguration of an Adult Welfare Clinic to be held weekly.
- 3. Inauguration of a Pre-Natal and Post-Natal Clinic at the Hospital or central site.
- 4. Subsidizing qualified Midwives who have been given special training in personal hygiene and nutrition so as to enable these selected midwives to be stationed in the larger settlements of outlying districts which are unable to pay for nursing and midwifery services.

Further Measures desirable:

- 1. Education of the general public to eat fruits, vegetables, etc., by newspaper articles, lectures, films, etc.
- 2. Encouragement given to people to engage in backyard vegetable farming and farming in general, so as to increase native citrus fruits and vegetables.
- 3. Encouraging inhabitants of non-fertile islands to move to some of the fertile and sparsely populated larger islands so that production of farm produce, such as fruit, vegetables, eggs, etc., may be produced in economic quantities.
- 4. Further reduction of duties on nutritive foods as as to enable the poorer classes to buy these necessities.
- 5. Either increase the duty on such foods as white flour, polished rice, etc., or reduce the duty on whole-wheat flour, unpolished rice, etc., so that the masses will be encouraged to purchase flour, rice, etc., which still possess their vitamin content, as it has been shown that one's diet is not controlled by choice but by economic necessity.

Consequences which improvement in nutrition may have upon the economy of the Colony.

- 1. Increased farm production would keep money in circulation within the Colony which is sent to the United States for the importation of fruit, vegetables, dairy products, eggs, etc.
- 2. Increased production and improved nutrition amongst the masses would
 - (a) Increase the earning power of the masses, i.e., provide more working days per year per individual due to less illness amongst the masses.
 - (b) Reduce the expenditure on Government Hospital for the maintenance of patients suffering from dementia (as the reult of pellagra) and reduce admissions to hospital for nutritional debility, avitaminoses, etc.

Further Comments.

- 1. Due to more qualified Midwives being trained at the Bahamas General Hospital, the Out Island Midwife who in the past has had no scientific training in pre-natal, neo-natal or post-natal care is quickly becoming a relic of the past.
- 2. As a result of instruction to selected candidates in nutrition and first aid, two settlements have finally decided to eat vegetables such as cabbage, etc., and adopt the use of fresh goat's milk (Abortus Fever is unknown amongst the goats in the Bahamas). The inhabitants of these two settlements admit that their state of health and that of their children has greatly improved.
- 3. As a result of lectures to the School Teachers one School Teacher reports that since he has induced the inhabitants of his settlement to sleep in ventilated rooms and isolate tubercular members of the family, no new cases of tuberculosis have developed in that settlement during the past four years.
- 4. One of the main exports from this Colony is tomatoes, which are shipped mostly to Canada. This has provided employment and greatly encouraged farming amongst the

populace, so that it is expected that more tomatoes will be available for the masses and will eventually be included as an article of the local diet.

5. It is hoped that anti-mosquito measures in the form of filling in swamps on a large scale will be carried out during the annual slack periods, thus providing work and income for many otherwise unemployed, thereby enabling them to secure a more nutritive diet.

SANITATION.

The number of houses supplied from Chlorinated City Water Supply is 1180, an increase of 137 over the last year. Instead of public wells there are 59 standpipes supplying city water, an increase of 8 over last year.

There are 361 buildings connected to the Sewerage System (an increase of 56 over last year). Although the sewers are not available in certain inhabited parts of the island, nevertheless with the improved water supply and sewerage system where available, the anticipated decrease in the number of cases of Typhoid and Enteritis is being realized.

Dairies, bakeries, restaurants, butcher shops, food shops, barber shops and bottling factories must have a certificate of sanitation before being allowed to operate.

The City Public Market and Slaughterhouse, which are controlled by the Health Board, have been improved structurally and are now more sanitary.

All butchers are examined medically and pronounced fit before being allowed to follow their trade.

The City water is analysed weekly. To date the water is of a high standard bacteriologically.

Dairy milk is also examined periodically.

An investigation into the purity of water in private wells (of which a great number exist) has been carried out after my return from leave. An analysis of sources of typhoid showed that 90% of cases were in families who used water

from private wells in their back yards. Water from 67 private wells was examined bacteriologically. Two (2) wells contained potable water, the remaining wells examined and found contaminated have been closed.

Periodic sanitary inspection of the Industrial School is carried out by the Assistant Medical Officer. Report appended.

The Barracks and Prison are inspected quarterly with regard to sanitation by the Assistant Medical Officer. Reports are appended.

Further data, relating more particularly to sanitation in Nassau, may be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, which is appended.

IV. HOSPITAL.

The distribution of the patients to the various Departments and results of treatments are shown in the appended table. The majority of "Relieved" cases are either venereal or were transferred to the Out Patients' Department, where they were eventually discharged as cured.

TABLE I.

Distribution	Sex	Remain- ing 31-12-35	Ad- mitted 1936.	Died 1936.	Remain- ing 31-12-36
Alexandra Hospital	M F	34 46	1089 1688	111 100	42 44
Victoria Jubilee Infirmary	M F	36 34	62 52	26 21	37 38
Lazaretto	M F	11 6			11 4
Mental Hospital	M F	35 31	32 31	9 5	23 36
Private Patients' Building	M F		43 30	8 3	1
		233	3027	283	236

The following table shows comparative figures of the work performed in the Hospital during the last seven years.

Admissions.	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Alexandra Hospital	1580	1643	2052	2260	2147	2496	3134
X-Ray Examinations	85	80	98	80	116	101	94
Deep X-Ray Therapy							
Treatments	15	25	15	15	25	27	67
Operations	255	247	300	311	415	371	224
Maternity Cases	137	186	205	272	258	377	346
Prescriptions Dispensed	20878	22399	27608	34402	31372	26281	37502

The next table shows the prevalence of the more important diseases for the same period.

	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
Pellagra	61	35	27	47	23	25	36
Palm. Tuberculosis	43	60	44	83	60	102	90
Enteric Fever	79	31	29	10	32	19	20
Gonrrhoea	150	163	102	144	105	159	59
Syphilis	95	143	115	159	121	240	135

X-RAY DEPARTMENT.

Many cases of Fibroid Uteri and skin conditions are being treated.

Private cases X-Rayed Pauper Cases X-Rayed Treatments given Fluoroscopic Examinations	38	1936 49 42 67 3
	128	161
	8	

SURGICAL OPERATIONS PERFORMED AT THE HOSPITAL IN 1936.

Major Operations	
Total	224

Nurses' Routine.

Lectures in Anatomy, Physiology, Medicine, Psychiatry, Dietetics, Obstetrics, Surgery and Practical Nursing are given to the undergraduate nurses by the Resident Staff.

Unqualified attendants in the mental hospital have been replaced by student nurses and a graduate nurse is now in charge of these departments. Psychiatry is now part of the curriculum of the student nurses and each nurse spends six months of her general training in one of the mental hospitals.

Steps have been taken to provide certain parts of the Out Islands (where district medical officers only occasionally visit) with first aid "dressers." Suitable candidates are given a course of six months at the Bahamas General Hospital in general training, including the rudiments of Nursing, Nutrition, Sanitation and Hygiene, special attention being directed towards recognizing the common native ailments and their appropriate treatment as well as first aid treatment of accidents, etc.

The standard of entrance for candidates in general nursing has been raised, viz., only applicants who have a high school leaving certificate, Junior Cambridge Certificate or equivalent, are accepted.

The Nurses training course has now been extended to four (4) years instead of three years as formerly. Also during the last three (3) months of this four years course each nurse is attached to the Infant Welfare Department of the Public Health Service.

The one exception to this rule is in regard to candidates for courses in Midwifery. However, applicants for training in midwivery who cannot fulfill this rule are only granted a licence (after six months training) to practice in the Out Islands.

V. RESEARCH WORK.

No special investigations were made by the Medical Department during the year.

VI. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS.

The reports of various officers of the Department are appended herewith as follows:

- (a) Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (b) Superintendent's Report.
- (c) Bacteriologist's Report.
- (d) Out Patients Department Report.
- (e) Police and Prison Report.
- (f) Industrial School Report.
- (g) Infant Welfare Report.
- (h) Meteorological Report.

J. M. CRUIKSHANK, Chief Medical Officer.

REPORT ON SANITATION DEPARTMENT.

Office of the Board of Health, Nassau, Bahamas, January 29th, 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report for year ended December 31st, 1936.

Inspections of Premises.

The staff of Sub-Sanitary Inspectors was reduced to three for the greater part of the year, being composed of Messrs. Harry Pyfrom, G. W. Harrison and C. T. Eldon.

The late Mr. Stephen O'Day resigned his appointment on 1st February, 1936, and Mr. Maxwell Thompson was appointed as his successor on March 11th, and he was subsequently seconded to the Magistrate's Court during the month of July.

Mr. Pyfrom took over the duties as Supervisor of the Market during June and July, at which time Mr. Albury, the Supervisor, was detailed to the Audit Department.

Mr. Harrison acted as Gatekeeper at the Hospital during the month of June, when the Gatekeeper was on leave.

I was on furlough from 1st July to 14th September.

It will therefore be seen that the Department for over three months of the year had two men only in the field regularly. This created a decided disadvantage and is revealed in the increase of infectious diseases during this period, also the total number of inspections for the year show a decrease of about 5,000 under last year.

Inspections were carried out in all the districts. Comparative totals of yearly inspections are as follows:

A total of 462 Health Orders were issued during the year, all of which have been complied with excepting 30, the majority of which were in connection with the closing of private wells. The number of orders issued during the past three years:

Twelve persons were prosecuted and convictions secured.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diseases notified during the year:

20 cases Typhoid Fever.

23 cases Measles.

16 cases Mumps.

The number of typhoid cases is greater by one than for last year and distribution is as follows:

Eastern District

Southern District

Out Islands

1 case.
17 cases.
2 cases.
20 cases

85% of these cases came from that area between East and West Streets South.

The majority of the cases occurred during July and August following the rainy season and the source of infection was traced in all cases to the use of water from shallow wells which had become polluted from the overflow of privies, etc. Accordingly, a programme of closing all private wells, the water from which was found to be contaminated after testing, was begun with the aim of removing these sources of infection. Up to date a total of 67 private wells have been closed. This should bring about a reduction in the incidence of typhoid fever.

Provision has been made for the installation of additional drinking fountains during 1937, in order that there may be greater accessibility of City Water in the suburban areas.

There were only about one half as many cases of Measles reported this year as compared with last.

FUMIGATIONS.

Fumigations during the year:

Houses		Three.
Deratisation	of ships	Five.

It is proposed to use Hydrogen Cyanide Gas for this purpose in the future. Sulphur dioxide is used at present.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

Weekly laboratory tests of the City Water drawn from all districts were continued.

Additional connections during 1936 were as follows:

	Additions	Total Number
	in 1936.	installations on
		Dec. 31, 1936.
Public Standpipes	5	59
Water Connections	137	1180
Sewer Connections	49	361

The Standpipes are abused, particularly by the children, causing frequent repairs and a great deal of waste.

The City Water has been extended as far as ""Caprice" on the Western Road and just beyond "Sans Souci" on the Eastern Road.

About the same number of Sewer connections have been made as in the previous year. The British Colonial Hotel was connected up. Small extensions of the sewer mains have also been made.

Dairies.

There are still five dairies in operation, and a satisfactory standard continues to be maintained. Regular inspections were made and samples of the milk periodically tested. A good many head of cattle were again imported this year for the farms.

The usual Tuberculin testing of cattle from farms which sell Raw Milk was carried out.

The personnel was medically examined twice during the year.

FOODSHOPS.

Regular visits of inspection of restaurants, butcher shops, grocery stores, etc., were made in all the districts. Under the new Public Health Regulations a much higher standard has to be met and some improvements have been effected.

The medical examinations of all foodhandlers were performed—a total of about 3,000 examinations.

The amount collected for these Certificates was £312 18s. 0d.

PUBLIC MARKET AND SLAUGHTERHOUSE.

The roof of the Main Market building was repaired and other repairs and painting of the building carried out. The Fish Market has not been screened and will have to receive attention before next summer.

The inspection of all animals slaughtered has been continued. The following carcasses and organs, etc., were condemned:

Carcasses condemned and destroyed.

3 Cattle: 2 Fevered condition, 1 Advanced Pregnancy.

47 Hogs: 43 Cerlulosae (tapeworm), 3 Tubεrculosis, 1 Emaciation.

3 Sheep: 2 bruised condition, 1 Emaciation.

Organs and Parts destroyed.

Hogs, 163 parts. Sheep and Goats, 1458 parts. Cattle, 14 parts.

There has been a great increase in the number of vendors of native basket-work, etc., and additional stalls have been provided for this purpose.

The total revenue from the Market and Slaughterhouse for the year amounted to £930 3s. 0d., which was slightly less than the previous year.

PUBLIC LATRINES.

A new drain was constructed at one of the latrines in the Pond area. The other latrines have continued satisfactorily but the public is very careless and the conveniences are frequently abused.

The question of providing another latrine in the City must receive consideration as the demands on the present conveniences are very heavy.

DRAINS.

The cleansing and flushing of the underground drains was performed regularly, and there were but few complaints about odours from this source. A new drain has been constructed in Christie Street, which should improve conditions in this area.

Many of the underground drains in the City hold water in "catch-basins," which result in the breeding of mosquitoes. This has been brought to the attention of the Public Works Department.

STREET SWEEPING AND GARBAGE COLLECTION.

All street sweeping carts have been fitted with wooden covers in order to prevent the sweepings from being blown out on the streets. The usual routine work has been well performed.

A new Ford truck was put into the service of garbage collection in August and the service extended to the Cable Beach properties on the Western Road.

With the continued extension of building activities in the out-lying districts, it is apparent that another truck will be an absolute necessity in the near future, and I would recommend that provision be made in the next year's estimates for this purpose.

The street sweepers and other common labourers now receive 3s. per day.

LOWLYING AREAS.

Sand has continued to be provided gratis for the purpose of filling in of swampy areas.

A statement of Expenditure and Receipts is hereto attached

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. F. KNOWLES, Chief Sanitary Inspector.

The Chairman, Health Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

Bahamas General Hospital, Office of Superintendent, June, 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit a statistical report on the Hospital for the calendar year ending December 31st, 1936.

STAFF.

The Staff numbers 112, made up as follows:

	From "Personal Emoluments" (Medical, European Nursing, Dispensary, Relief, and Admition)	nistra-		13
	From Open Votes: Nurses and Attendants	48 51		99
			1	.12
4	Details of Expenditure are as follows:			
1.	Maintenance, including New Ward and	C4940	10	10
2.	Staff Medical and Surgical, including Out Is-	£4349	10	10
	land and O. P. Dept	1361	6	9
	Salaries	4365	6	6
	Grounds	127	•	•
	Bedding and Clothing	631		
	Ambulance Service	139		
	Water and Sewerage	598		8
	Light and Power	869		1
	Insurance	12	12	0
IU.	Roads and Buildings: Painting and General Repairs	505	2	3

11.	Relief	£	453	4	1
	Funeral Expenses		331	14	10
	Pauper Passages		150	12	2
14.	Laboratory Expenses		390	17	11
15.	Leper Asylum Upkeep		434	18	9
16.	Passages European Nurses		215	18	7
17.	Printing and Contingent		49	9	3
	_				
		£14	1985	5	10
	-				

Relief and Miscellaneous Returns.

The number of paupers in receipt of free rations at the end of the year was 564, viz.: New Providence 104, Out Islands 460.

The following miscellaneous returns are of interest.

	1936.	1935.
Amount of foodstuff issued for		
Relief, lbs. Cereal	47674	42742
Pauper passages paid	210	264
No. of ambulance calls	2398	2020
No. of treatments at O. P. Dept	26569	22105
No. of Prescriptions made up at Dispensary	37502	26281
Average No. of patients per diem	240	225
Highest number on any one day	26	
No. of admissions to Hospital	3134	3036
Deaths	313	290
No. of treatments at Dental Clinic	935	991
Typhoid inoculations given at Out Patients		
Department	4247	4592

In five instances these are the highest recorded figures, viz.:

- 1. The daily average of patients.
- 2. The number of Ambulance calls.
- 3. Treatments at the Out Patients Department.

- 4. The number of Prescriptions.
- 5. The highest number on any one day.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

H. L. SUMNER, Superintendent.

PEPORT ON GOVERNMENT BACTERIOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

Nassau, Bahamas, Jan., 1936.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the work done in the Government Bacteriological Laboratory during the year 1936.

The same type of service was offered as in the past.

- (a) Clinical Pathological service to:
 - (1) The Bahamas General Hospital.
 - (2) The private practitioner.
- (b) Public Health Laboratory work, largely concerned with water and milk.
- (c) Medico-legal work performed for the Police.

City water was examined once per week. About 300 samples were examined bacteriologically. In addition to this a great many samples of water from private wells were submitted.

The City water meets a high standard of purity and this is in sharp contrast to samples secured from private wells. It is seldom that water secured from private wells can be passed bacteriologically.

Milk is examined according to standard methods on standard media and determinations as to protein fats and specific gravity are made also.

Post-mortems were not done on all cases dying in the hospital but only on cases reviewed by the Coroner or presenting features of clinical interest or doubts.

Tabulation of the more important pathological processes shows:

Tuberculosis	21
Syphilis	15
Dysentery	9
Malignancy	5
Kidney conditions, pyonephrosis and urae-	
${ m mia}$	6
Typhoid	3
Pneumonia	3
Myocarditis	3
Pellagra	3
Weningitis	2
Tetanus	1
Accidents, drowning, hanging	11
Miscellaneous	14
	A
	96

The importance of tuberculosis and syphilis both as causes of morbidity and death has long been recognised. These pert-mortems emphasized the importance of dysentery and malignancy in the Colony.

A fair number of stools submitted were found to contain E. histolytica.

No malarial parasites were recognised during the year in blood smears submitted.

An indication of the increased interest in the treatment of syphilis is shown by the number of requisitions for the Kahn Test. During the year this test was done on approximately 2,500 sera as against 482 in 1931, 998 in 1934 and 1730 in 1935. The sera submitted came of course from a selected group. The members of this group in many cases showed clinical evidence of syphilis and corroboration was sought from the laboratory. It is therefore of some interest to note that the number of positive sera in each weekly batch runs about 30%.

The laboratory is well equipped to do clinical pathological work and public health work. Facilities for doing work in

blood chemistry have not been fully utilised, particularly by the private practitioners.

The Venereal Clinic.

718 persons suffering from syphilis in some stage were referred for treatment.

165 Males completed at least one course of N.A.B.

150 Females completed at least one course of N.A.B.

315 Total.

There has been a big increase in the number of cases referred for treatment, i.e., 718 against 417 in 1935.

The policy of the Department is to give a minimum of 28 weeks continuous treatment consisting of 8 weekly injections of Thio-Bismol.

185 Males began a course of Bismuth.

208 Females began a course of Bismuth.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE KINNEARD,

Bacteriologist.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

REPORT ON OUT-PATIENTS DEPARTMENT.

Nassau, Bahamas, June, 1937.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report on the Out Patients' Department of the Bahamas General Hospital for the year 1936.

Total number seen and treated, 26,569.

Dental consultations with Dr. Wright, 935.

Routine Anti-Typhoid Inoculations are still being carried out. During 1936, 4,247 new patients were inoculated.

The Out Patients' Drugs and general routine in this Department have been unchanged from previous years.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. V. A. RODGERS, Medical Officer.

REPORT ON NASSAU PRISON.

Nassau, Bahamas, June, 1937.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

I have the honour to report that a daily sick parade was held at the Nassau Prison during 1936. Total number attendance 1694.

As has been the custom in the past the sick prisoners were treated as required, and any punishments were approved and witnessed.

Prescriptions were filled at the Bahamas General Hospital as usual, and no new departures were inaugurated in this branch.

Death by suicide, 1.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. V. A. RODGERS, Medical Officer.

REPORT ON POLICE FORCE.

Nassau, Bahamas, June, 1937.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that there has been no change in the Medical Service supplied to the Bahamas Police Force in 1936.

Daily sick parades were held at the Barracks and physical examinations were done upon recruits and re-engaged men, and the force was again inoculated against Typhoid Fever.

Number of men on the Police Force	116
Number reported sick	69
Number of sick reports	386
Detained at B. G. Hospital	18
Detained at Barracks Hospital	55
Number of V. D	2

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

K. V. A. RODGERS, Medical Officer.

REPORT ON BOYS INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.

Bahamas General Hospital, Nassau, Bahamas, June, 1937.

Sir,

I have the honour to report that I visited the Boys Industrial School, monthly, from July 1st, 1936, to December, 1936, and found a consistent gain in weight of the inmates. There was no evidence of Pellagra and the general health was good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

L. W. FITZMAURICE,
Assistant Medical Officer.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

REPORT ON INFANT WELFARE WORK.

Nassau, Bahamas, June, 1937.

The Chief Medical Officer, Nassau, Bahamas.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit to you the following statistics and report covering the work of the Infant Welfare during 1936.

STAFF OF INFANT WELFARE.

Medical Officer, Dr. G. S. Worrell. Nurse-in-charge, Miss F. D. May. Assistant Nurses, Mrs. Myra Mitchell, one student nurse.

VOIUNTARY WORKERS.

Eastern Clinic.
Mrs. E. A. Boyce
Miss Hiliary de Glanville
Mrs. Edward Isaacs
Miss Mildred Lightbourn
Miss Agnes Lightbourn.

Western Clinic.
Mrs. O. H. Curry.
Mrs. Elliott.
Miss H. de Glanville.

Central Clinic.
Mrs. T. A. Toote.
Mrs. A. F. Adderley.

All clinics were well attended throughout the year, and the mothers have been most co-operative in their endeavour to carry out instructions given.

The following statistics are submitted.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

F. D. MAY, Nurse-in-charge.

Table showing number of visits to children needing special care, and number of routine visits in the homes.

	Under	Over
Special visits Routine visits Initial visits	one year 171 924 695	one year. 202 2186
	1790	2388

Total home visits made, 4178.

Clinics	$No.\ held$	Attendance	New Cases.
Victoria	46	3103	234
Central	48	3563	353
Western	45	1785	187
Fox Hill	12	379	36
	151	8830	810

Number of Out Island Patients attending clinic	272
Referred to Dispensary	1143
Referred to Out Patients Department: Children	74
Adults	12
Admissions B. G. Hospital	32
Adults referred to laboratory	22
Adults advised	18
Referred to Anti-natal Clinic	9

Gifts to the Welfare.

The Hon. Lady Clifford: Clothing and toys.

Mrs. W. C. B. Johnson: 1 case of Diploma Milk.

Mr. Asa Pritchard: 1 case Blue Cross Milk. Also supplied

clinic with paper all year.

Dr. Fisher: 5 tins Dextri Maltose,

Solomon Bros: 3 cases Elden's Buttermilk.

The Bahamas General Hospital: 40 gals. Cod Liver Oil.

METEOROLOGICAL RETURN FOR THE YEAR 1936.

		TEMFE	TEM FERATURE.		RAI	RAINFALL.	WINDS.
Month.	Shade Mini- mum.	Shade Maxi- mum.	Range.	Mean.	Amount in Inches.	Degree of Hu-midity.	General Direction.
January	99	85	19	70.00	Nil	82.90	SE
February	61	98	25	70.23	3.85	81.13	Z
March	55	. 98	31	71.90	3.10	75.00	SE
April	29	8	67	76.38	3.10	73.50	N E
May	99	80	23	79.20	1.78	70.00	NE
June	02	91	27	72.33	12.07	80.60	SE
July	71	91	20	84.26	.32	74.45	SE
August	69	92	23	83.70	9.35	77.12	S 日 日
September	19	85	22	92.69	3.26	77.50	N
October	71	85	21	80.92	4.17	79.50	SE
November	64	68	22	75.21	5.54	77.00	Z
December	09	98	26	71.55	1.19	81.87	田 Z

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BAHAMAS GENERAL HOSPITAL.

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS (IN-PATIENTS) FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Diseases.	Remain- ing in Hospital	Yearly	Total.	Total Cases	Remain- ing in Hospital
DISEASES.	at end of 1935.	Admissions	Deaths.	Treated.	at end of 1936.
I.—Epidemic, Endemic and Infectious Diseases.					
Enteric Group: Typhoid Fever		20	3	20	
Relapsing Fever		1		ĩ	
Whooping Cough	1	50		1	
Influenza	1	50		$ \begin{array}{c} 50 \\ 6 \end{array} $	
Mumps Dysentery:		0		0	
Amœbic		29	2	29	3
Bacillary		11	4	11	
Other Epidemic Diseases:		1		4	
Dengue Tetanus		9	7	$\frac{1}{9}$	
Mycosis		$\frac{1}{2}$	·	$\frac{1}{2}$	
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and	-			0-	
Laryngeal	7	90	38	97	10
Tuberculosis of the Intestines or Peritoneum		8	5	8	
Tuberculosis of Bones and Joints		$\ddot{6}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	$\stackrel{\circ}{6}$	1
Tuberculosis, disseminated:					
Chronic		3	2	3	
Syphilis:		9		9	
Primary Secondary		6		6	
Tertiary		115	15	115	6
Hereditary	1	5	3	6	
Soft Chancre		$\frac{4}{39}$		$\begin{vmatrix} 4\\39 \end{vmatrix}$	
Gonorrhœa and its complications Gonorrhœal Opthalmia		9		9	
Granuloma Venereum	2	7		9	1
Septicæmia		3	1	3	
				r	
mentioned above. Cancer or other malignant Tu-					
mours of the Buccal Cavity		2		2	
Cancer or other malignant Tu-		P	-	_	
mours of the Stomach or Liver		5	1	5	1
Cancer or other malignant Tu- mours of the Female Genital					
Organs	1 63	2		4	
Cancer or other malignant Tu-	-				
mours of the Breast		2		2	
Cancer or other malignant Tu- mours of Organs not specified		1		1	
Tumours, non-Malignant		7	3	$\frac{1}{7}$	
Acute Rheumatism		4		4	
Chronic Rheumatism	1 (1)	19 36	7	19	
Pellagra		4	1	39	1
Diabetes (not including Insipidus) Anæmia:			1	4	1
Pernicious		1		1	
Other Anæmias and Chlorosis		2		$\frac{1}{2}$	

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RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS (IN-PATIENTS) FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Diseases,	Remain- ing in Hospital	Yearly	Total.	Total Cases	Remain- ing in Hospital
	at end of 1935.	Admissions	Deaths.	Treated.	at end of 1936.
Diseases of the Thyroid Gland: Exophthalmic Goitre		1		1	
Leukæmia: Hodgkin's Disease		$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$	1	2 12	
Chronic poisoning by mineral substances (lead, mercury, etc.	2	13		13	
Locomotor Ataxia	2	$egin{array}{c c} 1 & & \\ 4 & & \end{array}$	4	$\frac{3}{4}$	
Hæmorrhage Thrombosis Paralysis:		1	1	1	
Hemiplegia Other forms of Mental Alienation Epilepsy	3 1	7 9 7	3	7 12 8	
Eclampsia, Convulsions (non- purperal) 5 years or over Hysteria	1	7		. 7	
Neuritis		6		9 6	
Other affections of the Eye Affections of the Ear or Mastoid Sinus	1	24	1	25	6
IV.—Affections of the Circulatory System.			<u>.</u>		1
Pericarditis		$\begin{vmatrix} 1 \\ 33 \end{vmatrix}$	9	33	
Other Diseases of the Heart: Valvular	1	16	4	16	1
Myocarditis Diseases of the Arteries: Arterio-Sclerosis	7	3		$\frac{1}{3}$	1
Embolism or Thrombosis (non-cerebral) Diseases of the Veins:		1		1	
Hæmorrhoids		$\begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$		$egin{array}{c} 6 \ 2 \end{array}$	
Diseases of the Lymphatic System: Lymphadenitis, Bubo (non-					
other affections of the Circulatory System.		17 5		17 5	
V.—Affections of the Respiratory System.		_			
Diseases of the Nasal Passages Affections of the Larynx: Larnygitis		13 11		13 11	
Bronchitis: Acute		53	1	53	4

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RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS (IN-PATIENTS) FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Diseases.	Remain- ing in Hospital	Yearly	Total.	Total Cases	Remain- ing in
	at end of 1935.	Admissions	Deaths.	Treated.	Hospital at end of 1936.
Broncho-Pneumonia		22	3	22	
Pneumonia: Lobar		16	4	16	
Pleurisy, Empyema		10	1	10	
Asthma		8		8	
System.					
Diseases of Teeth or Gums: Caries, Pyorrhœa, etc		7		7	
Stomatitis		7	1	7	
Affections of the Pharynx or Tonsils:				·	
Tonsilitis		44		44	4
Ulcer of the Stomach		2	1	2	4
Other affections of the Stomach: Gastritis		27		27	2
Diarrhœa and Enteritis:				41	4
Under two years	5	26	5	31	3
Two years and over		43	5	43	
Diseases due to Intestinal Parasites:					
Ascaris		24	1	24	
Coccidia		1		1	
Appendicitis	3	23 32	1	26 32	
Affections of the Anus,				02	
Fistula, etc	1	13		14	
Constipation		175		175	7
Cirrhosis of the Liver: Non-Alcoholic		4	4	4	
Other affections of the Liver:		4	$\frac{1}{2}$	4	
Abscess		2		2	2
Hepatitis		$\begin{array}{c c} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{array}$		2 1	
Jaungice	l	1		1	
Peritonitis (of unknown cause) Other affections of the Digestive		5	3	5	
System		6	1	6	
VII.—Diseases of the Genito- urinary System (non-Vene-					
real)					
Acute Nephritis	2	$\frac{1}{10}$	3	3	
Other affections of the Kidneys:			3	10	
Pyelitis, etc		3 3		3	
Diseases of the Bladder:		3		3	
Cystitis		14		14	1
Stricture		8		8	
Diseases of the Prostate:					
Prostatitis		8	2	8	1

RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS (IN-PATIENTS) FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Diseases.	Remaining in Hospital at end of 1935.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases	Remain- ing in Hospital
		Admissions	Deaths.	Treated.	at end of 1936.
Diseases (non-Venereal) of the Genital Organs of Man: Epididymitis	1	4		5	
Orchitis Hydrocele Ulcer of Penis Cysts or other non-malignant		2 6 8		$\begin{bmatrix} 2\\6\\10 \end{bmatrix}$	
Tumours of the Ovaries Salpingitis Abscess of the Pelvis		13 50 3		13 50 3 7	2
Uterine Tumours (non-malignant) Uterine Hæmorrhage (non-puer- peral) Metritis	1	18 5		18 5	*
Other affections of the female Genital Organs: Displacements of Uterus. Dysmenorrhæa.		5 25		5 26	2
VIII.—Puerperal State. Normal Labour Accidents of Pregnancy:		342		346	1
Abortion Ectopic Gestation Other accidents of Pregnancy Other accidents of Parturition		$\begin{bmatrix} & 41 \\ 2 \\ 27 \\ 10 \\ \end{bmatrix}$. 1	$\begin{array}{c c} 41 \\ 2 \\ 27 \\ 10 \\ \end{array}$	1
Puerperal Eclampsia. IX.—Affections of the Skin and Cellular Tissues. Gangrene		$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$	1	$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$	
Carbuncle Abscess	2	2 3 4 49 55		3 4 51 55	1
Cellulitis Tinea Scabies Other Diseases of the Skin:	1	1 5		2 5	1
Brythema. Eczema. X.—Diseases of Bones and Organs of Locomotion (other	1	20 5		$\begin{bmatrix} 20 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$	
than Tuberculosis). Diseases of Bones: Osteitis		5		5	
Diseases of Joints: Arthritis. Synovitis. Other Diseases of Bones or Or-	2	22	1	22 2	3
gans of LocomotionXI.—Malformations. Malformations	1	8 4		9	2
HydrocephalusXII.—Diseases of Infancy. Congenital Debility Other affections of Infancy		3 13	1	$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$egin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

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RETURN OF DISEASES AND DEATHS (IN-PATIENTS) FOR THE YEAR 1936.

Disease:	Remain- ing in Hospital at end of 1935.	Yearly Total.		Total Cases	Remain- ing in Hospital
		Admissions	Deaths.	Treated.	at end of 1936.
Infant neglect (infants of three months or over)	4			4	
XIII,—Affections of Old Age. Senility		10	5	10 1	
XIV—Affections produced by External Causes. Food Poisoning	1	12 20	1	12 21	
Wounds (by cutting or stabbing instruments)		38		38	1
accidents, etc.) Injuries inflicted by Animals; Bites, Kicks, etc. Dislocation		$egin{bmatrix} 2 \ 2 \ 4 \end{bmatrix}$		2 2 4	1
Sprain. Fracture Other external injuries. XV.—Ill-Defined Diseases. Diseases not already specified	$\frac{2}{2}$	14 45 76	2	14 47 78	2
or ill-defined: Ascites Œdema Asthenia XVI.—Diseases, the total of	1	6 45	., 3	$\begin{array}{c} 6 \\ 45 \\ 1 \end{array}$	1 5
which have not caused 10 Deaths.	5	29	. 1.	34	1
Total	69	2420	1,77	2489	96